

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 30, 2003

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 351**

**Introduced by Senator Ducheny**

February 19, 2003

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An act to add Section 8589.75 to the Government Code, relating to emergency services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 351, as amended, Ducheny. Emergency services: firefighting: federal funds.

Existing law establishes in the Office of Emergency Services a thermal imaging equipment purchasing program under which the office acquires firefighting thermal imaging equipment on behalf of public agencies that provide fire suppression services. The director of the office is required to seek funding for the program from the private sector, grant programs, and other appropriate sources.

This bill would provide that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon appropriation in the annual Budget Act or another statute, the Director of Finance, without regard to fiscal year, may transfer any moneys in the Federal Trust Fund to the Office of Emergency Services if moneys are made available by the United States for expenditure by the state for the purpose of providing financial assistance to ~~rural fire departments providing emergency services in the region of the California-Mexico border~~ *any volunteer fire department that provides emergency services in a rural area of the state.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 8589.75 is added to the Government  
2 Code, to read:  
3 8589.75. (a) *For purposes of this section:*  
4 (1) *“Rural area” means territory that is outside of any*  
5 *urbanized area designated by the United States Bureau of the*  
6 *Census from the 2000 federal census.*  
7 (2) *“Volunteer fire department” means an organized*  
8 *department of firefighters and other personnel who regularly*  
9 *provide fire suppression services on a volunteer basis and are not*  
10 *employees of, or receive compensation from, the department.*  
11 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon  
12 appropriation in the annual Budget Act or another statute, the  
13 Director of Finance, without regard to fiscal year, may transfer any  
14 moneys in the Federal Trust Fund established pursuant to Section  
15 16360 to the Office of Emergency Services if moneys are made  
16 available by the United States for expenditure by the state for the  
17 purpose of providing financial assistance to ~~rural fire departments~~  
18 ~~providing emergency services in the region of the~~  
19 ~~California-Mexico border.~~ *any volunteer fire department that*  
20 *provides emergency services in a rural area of the state.*

